UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.1/49/L.50
16 November 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 72

FINAL TEXT OF A TREATY ON AN AFRICAN NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE

Establishment of an African nuclear-weapon-free zone

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/49/L.2/Rev.1

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 9 of draft resolution A/C.1/49/L.2/Rev.1, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Organization of African Unity (OAU), to take appropriate action to enable the Group of Experts designated by the United Nations in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity to meet jointly with the Intergovernmental Group of Experts of the Organization of African Unity early in 1995 at Pretoria, in order to finalize the drafting of a treaty on a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Africa, and to submit the text of the treaty to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session under the item entitled "Final text of a treaty on an African nuclear-weapon-free zone".

B. Relationship of the request to the approved programme of work

2. The above request is related to major programme I, Maintenance of peace and security, disarmament and decolonization, programme 7, Disarmament, of the revised medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, 1/ and subsection 3B Department of Political Affairs I, of section 3, Political Affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. 2/

C. Activities by which the request would be implemented

3. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would organize a five-day session early in 1995 at Pretoria, for the group of 17 experts. It may be recalled that, in endorsing recommendation 4 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations, 3/ the General Assembly, in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, reaffirmed the existing principle that United Nations bodies should meet at their respective established headquarters. In the present case, the meeting should normally be convened at Addis Ababa, as the regional headquarters of the United Nations; therefore, an exception to this principle would be required in respect of the meeting to be convened at Pretoria.

4. It is the understanding of the Secretary-General that the Office of Conference and Support Services would not be requested to provide conference services directly, but that the regular budget of the United Nations would bear all costs related to the convening of the session, namely, conference servicing, travel and daily subsistence for the experts and appropriate substantive support services to the Group of Experts.

D. Modifications required in the proposed programme of work for 1994-1995

5. The submission of the report to the General Assembly called for by the draft resolution would fall under activity 2 (a), "Parliamentary documentation", of subprogramme 1 of subsection 3B, programme of work "Disarmament", of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. Accordingly, no modifications would be required to that activity. Modification with regard to the substantive servicing of the Group of Experts would however be required, as reflected in the Secretary-General's statement of programme budget implications (A/C.1/48/L.53), and should be cited under activity 2 (b) "Substantive services", of subprogramme 1 of subsection 3B, programme of work - Disarmament, of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995, as follows:

"(v) Group of Experts designated in 1991 by the United Nations in cooperation with OAU within the framework of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/56 A (two sessions in 1994)."

E. Additional requirements at full cost

6. The requirements arising from the activities described in paragraphs 3 and 4 above are estimated at full cost as follows.

Meeting at Pretoria, South Africa (five days, 1995)

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(a)	Conference-servicing costs	
	(i) Rental of conference room	7 000
	(ii) Interpretation (E,F)	7 400
	(iii) Rental of office equipment	3 500
	(iv) Translation (A,E,F)	3 300
	(v) Supplies and materials	6 000
	Subtotal (a)	27 200
(b)	Non-conference-servicing costs	
	(i) Travel and daily subsistence allowance for 17 experts	60 000
	(ii) Travel and daily subsistence allowance for 2 staff members (1 Professional and 1 General Service) from the Centre for Disarmament Affairs	13 100
	(iii) Consultant services (3 work-months at P-3 level)	12 000
	Subtotal (b)	85 100
	Grand total (a) and (b)	112 300

F. Potential for absorption

7. The Centre for Disarmament Affairs of the Department of Political Affairs would absorb the requirements enumerated in paragraph 6 above for travel and daily subsistence allowance for 17 experts ($60,000), consultant services ($12,000), travel and daily subsistence of staff ($13,100) and conference-servicing costs ($27,200), within resources available to it for those items, to provide the necessary services to the meetings. No additional appropriation would therefore be required.

C. Indication of additional requirements

8. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.1/49/L.2/Rev.1, no additional requirements would arise under subsection 3B of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. An exception to its principle of holding United Nations meetings at established headquarters would, however, need to be granted by the General Assembly in respect of the meeting to be convened at Pretoria.

Notes

1/ Official records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/47/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

2/ Ibid., Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/48/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

3/ Ibid., Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49 (A/41/49).